

## **News Release**

For Immediate Release: December 11, 2019

COUNTY OF KAUA'I DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION KAUA'I POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Illegal campers removed from Salt Pond Beach Park on Wednesday after multiple warnings

HANAPĒPĒ – Kaua'i police arrested three individuals on Wednesday who refused to comply with county park camping rules at Salt Pond Beach Park.

At approximately 6:30 a.m., officials with the Department of Parks and Recreation requested the assistance of the Kaua'i Police Department to safely remove individuals who were illegally camping at Salt Pond Beach Park, in order for park officials to perform scheduled maintenance of the area.

Park officials have issued multiple verbal warnings and written citations to the unpermitted campers before Wednesday's arrest. They were also previously notified that camping is closed at Salt Pond Beach Park, Tuesday through Wednesday, for park maintenance. Additionally, assistance from resources representatives have been offered to the individuals on numerous occasions in the past.

"Salt Pond Beach Park is a County park facility meant for all members of our community," said Department of Parks and Recreation Director Patrick Porter. "It's a popular place for families during the holidays, and the County continues to issue camping permits to those wishing to use the public park. We have continuously tried to work with all campers to comply with the rules of our parks and facilities, in an effort to ensure our parks are properly cared for and maintained for the entire community."

"The arrests this morning were made due to violations of park rules that are in place to protect public health," said Kaua'i Police Chief Todd G. Raybuck. "The park requires routine

maintenance and campers need to vacate the premises during the allotted timeframe so that county officials can clean for sanitary purposes. KPD will continue to enforce the rules so that Salt Pond Beach Park can continue to be enjoyed by the entire community."

The three individuals were taken into custody Wednesday without incident and each released on \$50 in bail.

County officials continue to urge all park users to apply for camping permits and follow all facility rules for the safety and enjoyment of all park users. For more information about camping at County of Kaua'i parks, please visit <a href="https://www.kauai.gov/Camping">www.kauai.gov/Camping</a>.

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